

retirement they purchased her home place in Winston County, Alabama, and relocated there where they resided until Charles' death on August 10, 2011.

Charles was the father of one daughter, Patricia Rucker Goss, and two sons Gregory Anthony (Tony) and David Christopher (Chris) Rucker and was grandfather to 5 grandchildren: Beth Goss Scarborough, Melissa Goss, Leanne Rucker Waldrep, Noah Rucker and Caleb Rucker.

He will be missed by these and many others but the one that will miss him more is his beloved wife of 42 years, Claudia.

Charles was a wonderful individual who had countless friends. He was a much loved husband, father and grandfather and a great American and patriot.

PROTECT LIFE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 13, 2011

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 358, the Protect Life Act.

At a time when the current unemployment rate is 9.1 percent, we need to focus on creating jobs and spurring economic growth.

Instead, the Majority has chosen to focus on unnecessary legislation aimed at endangering the health of women across this country.

The Majority has spent weeks and months in the House trying to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care act. After those attempts failed they began attacking individual provisions in the health reform law.

The Protect Life Act is another attack on health reform. Beyond that, the legislation is unnecessary.

We already established that no federal funds will be used to perform abortion under health reform because these protections are already included in the underlying law of the land known as the Hyde amendment, which simply states that no federal funds from being used to perform abortions.

Supporters of the Protect Life Act assert that they are ensuring no federal funds being used for abortions, but this argument ignores the overreaching nature of the bill and the dangerous consequences for women associated with this legislation.

Under this legislation, health care entities could refuse to "participate in" abortions. This could mean that a hospital employee could refuse to process bills, handle medical records, or set up an examination room.

The bill also endangers women's health and lives by creating a dangerous loophole in long-standing state and federal laws that require hospitals to provide appropriate emergency care to pregnant women and would eliminate existing protections for women seeking care in emergency circumstances—allowing a hospital to deny abortion care to a woman, even if it would save her life.

The Protect Life Act also allows states to enact sweeping "conscience" laws that would allow health plans to refuse to cover women's preventive services, including birth control, without cost-sharing—potentially undoing a new protection that 66 percent of Americans support.

This legislation goes far beyond any legislation passed by the House with regard to abortion. Quite simply, it endangers the health and lives of women.

Beyond that, we are wasting valuable time on a bill that cannot pass the Senate and will be vetoed by President Obama instead of debating and voting on the American Jobs Act.

Our constituents both Republicans and Democrats want us to work on creating jobs and reducing our deficit. I fail to see how this legislation accomplishes either of those goals.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

THE PASSAGE OF THE COLOMBIA, PANAMA AND SOUTH KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of all three free trade agreements that we passed this week. I have been a strong supporter of these agreements for as long as we have been waiting for them to be submitted to Congress. This is a real jobs bill that will certainly help our economy and help people get back to work without spending a dime of the taxpayer's money.

As the Administration has sat on these agreements, the United States has been left in the wake of our international partners who have been able to finalize and benefit from agreements that didn't include us. If the United States does not lead in the Global Economy, it will be forced to follow and the FTAs represent our most definitive step towards leveling the playing field for our workers, farmers, and consumers. To continue to thrive as the greatest economy in the world, we have to put ourselves into a position to compete.

These agreements will enable the private sector to create thousands of jobs both in my home state of Indiana and in the United States at large. In Indiana, Hoosiers should particularly benefit, given that we have seen a 138 percent increase in exports over the past thirteen years. These free trade agreements will cause this number to skyrocket as tariffs and penalties are removed for U.S. companies making capital available to create more jobs. This is further demonstrated by the fact that 42 percent of all U.S. jobs are connected to international trade and 15,752 jobs in my home district are directly supported by exports. By increasing the market share for U.S. companies and eliminating barriers and high tariffs, these companies will increase their profits and use that money to hire new employees. Every \$1 billion in increased exports generates an estimated 25,000 new jobs in all sectors of the economy. It is no longer enough for us to simply buy American, to compete in this harsh environment globally we are going to have to sell American as well.

These free trade agreements are an obvious solution to the problem of slow economic growth. This is a package that will actually stimulate, unlike others that have been passed before. I commend the passage of these agreements. Let's continue to enable America to get back to work.

E-VERIFY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the E-Verify Program and legislation pending in the House. Last weekend California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law AB 1236, making it illegal for the state and California municipalities to voluntarily use the E-verify system. This is an outrage.

Right now, across America, various states and local governments are enacting mandatory E-Verify. Meanwhile, California is going the other way by enacting a ban on voluntary E-Verify, and in fact the Governor is signing laws to preempt the use of E-verify.

The illegal population looking for work will now head to states that are ignoring the problem and away from states like Arizona and Alabama which have taken a proactive role to fill the vacuum the federal government has left with regard to immigration policy. People will understandably go where they can find work. However, in a state with 12.1% unemployment, we cannot afford the burden on our schools and social services the influx brings. This is why we need a uniform system that ensures ALL workers in America are legal and paying into the system that they are using. That is why I support and am a sponsor of H.R. 2885, the Legal Workforce Act.

Before I came to Congress, I owned and operated several restaurant businesses. I was required by law to hire a legal workforce but there was no tool available to determine if the identifying documentation presented at the time of employment was fraudulent. When I first created employment verification in 1996, I wanted to build a system that would utilize existing information and processes that was reliable, fair and simple to use.

At that time, and still today, every employer is required to file an I-9 form based on paper identification documents. My solution was simple: provide employers a way to check that a given name and Social Security number match government records. Today, the E-Verify program has over 268,000 employers representing 900,000 hiring sites. In fiscal year 2011, there have been more than 10.9 million queries run through the system. The Legal Workforce Act would essentially make E-Verify mandatory by requiring the Secretary of Homeland Security to implement a verification process for mandatory employment verification.

Of the millions of queries run through the computer based E-Verify system, 98.3 percent of employees are instantly verified. Individuals who are given a tentative non-confirmation are given eight business days to contact SSA or DHS regarding their case. Currently one percent of all queried employees choose to contest an E-Verify result and only half of them—point five percent—are successful in contesting that the governments information was incorrect. E-Verify is doing the job it was intended: denying employment to people in the United States not authorized to work.

E-Verify is ready for mandatory use. The Legal Workforce Act would phase in the mandatory requirement over 24 months for most employers with the exception for agricultural labor which will have 36 months to comply. As

a member from an agriculture state, I think it is important to ensure our agriculture community has the labor they need. I support parallel legislation to provide a workable guest worker program that includes the necessary safeguards to ensure that guest workers leave on time. This should be easier to do because with mandatory employment verification guest workers will not be able to secure a legal job in the U.S. after their seasonal work visa expires.

The Legal Workforce Act also implements worker protections for mismatched Social Security numbers and use of multiple Social Security numbers. The bill also provides good faith exemptions for employers who use the program while increasing the penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants.

The Legal Workforce Act is a thoughtful and comprehensive approach to mandatory employment verification and E-Verify is ready to fulfill the obligation. America is ready for mandatory employment verification: employers are required by law to hire a legal workforce, and mandatory E-Verify will ensure that they are complying with the law.

While the legal name of the current program is "Basic Pilot Program," the effective brand name is E-Verify. Many businesses have incorporated the term "E-Verify" into their business and marketing plans. I would strongly suggest that we enshrine the name in law to provide clarity and continuity for businesses currently using E-Verify.

E-Verify is an extremely effective program and as we've seen from recent actions all over the country, from Arizona to Rhode Island, mandatory employment verification is quickly becoming a reality. As Members of Congress responsible for controlling our borders and enforcing legal employment, let's build upon what works and give the American people what they want: a federal law mandating employment verification.

HONORING SAINT VINCENT'S DAY HOME

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Vincent's Day Home (SVDH) as it celebrates the amazing milestone of its Centennial. Over the last 100 years, in the same Victorian house in which it was founded, the Sisters of the Holy Family and SVDH's Board of Directors, staff and supporters have provided Oakland's low-income children and their families with countless opportunities to grow and thrive. On this truly momentous occasion, we recognize the steadfast commitment of SVDH to provide a safe, welcoming and hopeful space that nourishes the bodies, hearts and minds of West Oakland's children.

In 1911, The Archbishop of San Francisco, Most Reverend Patrick Riordan, asked Sister Joseph and Sister Agnes of the Sisters of the Holy Family to select a site in Oakland for the establishment of a new convent and day home. An 1863, 14-room Queen Anne Victorian house was purchased for a bargain price, and after a dedication ceremony on October 2, 1911 and a grand opening on the

16th, Saint Vincent's Day Home was officially in service. Located on the second floor of the residence, the Day Home was already serving 32 children in its first month. In the 1920s, the Day Home expanded operations as the convent moved to Piedmont and the organization received additional funding through what is now called the United Way. By the following decade, 180 children were enrolled in SVDH and the Day Home was growing to include increased support and programming. Today, SVDH serves over 230 children, ages two through six, and counting.

Over the last 40 years, SVDH has struck a vital balance between the introduction of modern revitalization efforts and the maintenance of its core values of service. For these reasons and more, it has become a national model of care for toddlers, preschoolers, kindergarteners and youth. From its first major expansion in 1976, to the launch of its Children's Fund a decade later and its first computer lab in 1991, SVDH has utilized a collaborative leadership process that includes founding parties, parents and lay Board members in its ongoing and successful operation.

More than 32,000 children have benefitted from SVDH's culturally competent education and literacy programs, as well as its referrals to comprehensive services that help keep families afloat. It's dedicated community, government and private partners, including United Way of the Bay Area, the California Department of Education, Chevron Corporation, Scott's Seafood Restaurant, S.H. Cowell Foundation and the Sisters of the Holy Family (just to name a few), are helping SVDH to champion family literacy and jump-start child development for decades to come.

Therefore, on behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to salute Saint Vincent's Day Home, and all of those who have contributed to its century of service. Thank you for your inestimable contributions to our community. Once again, congratulations, and I wish you the very best as you strive for another 100 years of excellence.

TRIBUTE TO DR. NANCY GRACE ROMAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary achievements of my constituent, Nancy Grace Roman. One of the world's most significant women in the history of science, Dr. Roman has dedicated her life to the exploration of the universe. Often called the "Mother of Hubble" thanks to her efforts to make the Hubble Space Telescope a reality, Dr. Roman was critical to establishing the new era of space-based astronomical instrumentation. Recently, she was honored by NASA with a fellowship in her name, the Nancy Grace Roman Technology Fellowship in Astrophysics, which will help young researchers achieve scientific breakthroughs in the development of innovative technologies, just as Dr. Roman did decades ago. Only the fourth person recognized by NASA with a fellowship, she joins the ranks of Albert Einstein, Edwin Hubble and Carl Sagan in being so honored.

Dr. Roman's fascination with outer space began at a young age. Her passion for the

universe was fueled in large part by her parents. Her father, a geophysicist, answered her scientific questions, while her mother, a teacher, exposed Nancy to nature and spent nights observing the sky with her daughter and pointing out such astronomical phenomena as constellations and the aurora. Dr. Roman knew from her early childhood that she wanted to devote her life to astronomy, even organizing an astronomy club to observe the constellations with her friends when she was just eleven years old.

Dr. Roman's dream of a life in science came true, as she devoted her career to understanding the nature of stars. Dr. Roman received a B.A. in astronomy from Swarthmore College in 1946 and a doctorate in astronomy from the University of Chicago in 1949. She then began working as a research associate in the radio astronomy branch of the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. In 1959, NASA recruited Dr. Roman to set up a program in space astronomy. As NASA's first chief of astronomy, Dr. Roman traveled across the United States, seeking to identify the needs of astronomers nationwide. She then established a committee of astronomers and NASA engineers to determine the kinds of satellites that were necessary and that could feasibly be engineered. Dr. Roman once described looking at the universe through the atmosphere as "somewhat like looking through a piece of old, stained glass." Her deep passion and determination for finding newer, more efficient methods of astronomical exploration that would solve this problem inspired her to help facilitate the development of the most powerful and versatile instrument of its time—the Hubble Space Telescope. Her role in the creation of this extraordinary piece of technology led Dr. Roman to be affectionately known as the "Mother of Hubble." Following her work with the Hubble Space Telescope, Dr. Roman served as Chief of NASA's Astronomy and Relativity Programs, the first woman ever to hold an executive position at NASA. There, she was involved with, among other things, planning numerous satellite and rocket exploration programs.

In addition to having made numerous professional contributions to science, Dr. Roman is an inspiration to women of all ages and backgrounds. She grew up knowing what she wanted to do with her life but, as a woman of that era, she was forced to deal with a constant stream of disparaging comments from people around her. When Dr. Roman opted to take an additional year of high school mathematics instead of Latin, she was ridiculed by the school guidance counselor, who rejected the prospect of a girl choosing to pursue such a field. Her friends also tried to discourage her from science and mathematics, insisting that it was not the correct path for a woman of her generation to follow. Women of Dr. Roman's generation were often discouraged from pursuing any professional career, much less one in the sciences. Despite this, Dr. Roman followed her passion. She defied generational stereotypes, persevering to become one of the most eminent and influential women of her generation. Today, Dr. Roman remains an active member of the American Association of University Women and the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Bethesda, Maryland. Since retiring from NASA in 1979, she spends much of her time consulting, teaching, and lecturing around the country and